

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /133 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0546
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01306

DEPARTMENT PASS ALL NATO CAPITALS

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: CAT, UN
SUBJECT: CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER (CAT) RESTRAINT AND
THE SSOD

1. USREP MADE PRESENTATION TO BARTON GROUP ON APRIL
7 AS REQUESTED.

2. BARTON GROUP CONSENSUS WAS THAT NON-ALIGNED WOULD
RESIST MENTION OF RESTRICTIONS ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS
TRANSFER (CAT) WITHOUT ALSO HAVING MENTION MADE OF
RESTRICTIONS ON THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH ARMS. CANADIAN
AMBASSADOR BARTON EXPRESSED STRONG VIEW THAT IT WAS UN-
REALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT NON-ALIGNED WOULD AGREE TO
LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST NON-
ALIGNED DEFENSE INTERESTS BY MENTIONING "TRANSFERS"
ONLY. HE EMPHASIZED NEED TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY ON THIS
ISSUE. GROUP MEMBERS DID NOT HOWEVER SEEM TO REJECT
US SUGGESTION THAT "PRODUCTION" MIGHT RAISE SOME
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SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

3. DANISH, DUTCH AND NORWEGIANS SUGGESTED THAT DIFFICULT
PROBLEM OF "TRANSFERS" AND "PRODUCTION" MIGHT BE FINESSED
BY MAKING BOTH THE SUBJECT OF STUDIES, RATHER THAN
INCLUDED IN SECTION ON MEASURES.

4. FRG REP (NEUBERT), LATER TOLD USREP FRG SHARED US CONCERN RE PRODUCTION AND HE SUGGESTED THAT SOME LARGER LDC'S WITH INDIGENOUS INDUSTRIES MIGHT BE USEFUL TO US SINCE THEY DO NOT WISH TO SEE THEIR INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION LIMITED.

5. IN POST-MEETING DISCUSSION, TURKISH REP ULUCEVIK OFFERED FOLLOWING PERSONAL VIEWS:

--SINCE US POLICIES ON TRANSFERS NOT WELL UNDERSTOOD IN VIEW OF RECENT US SALES, CAT PROPOSAL MADE BY OTHERS MIGHT FARE BETTER THAN US PROPOSAL;

-- A US PAPER ON CAT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL FOR BARTON GROUP MEMBERS; AND

--SUCH A PAPER COULD ALSO CLARIFY POORLY UNDERSTOOD CONCEPT OF CAT RESTRAINT FOR NON-ALIGNED MANY OF WHOM HAD LITTLE DISARMAMENT EXPERTISE, HOWEVER PAPER MIGHT STIR SPECULATION RE OUR INTENTIONS.

6. BELGIAN REP BERG EXPRESSED SOME SYMPATHY FOR IDEA THAT "PRODUCTION" MIGHT CREATE PROBLEMS. HE PRIVATELY VOLUNTEERED HIS INTEREST IN TRYING A REDRAFT OF ENTIRE CONVENTIONAL ARMS SECTION IN PROGRAM OF ACTION. USREP EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DISCUSSING ANY BELGIAN IDEAS.
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7. ITALIAN REP LAY SAID ITALY STILL WANTS TO PUSH ITS PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT UNDER ARTICLE 29 OF THE CHARTER OF A COMMISSION ON CAT RESTRAINT DIVIDED INTO REGIONAL SUB-COMMISSIONS IN WHICH MAIN SUPPLIERS TO EACH REGION WOULD PARTICIPATE. HE SAID SUPPORT FROM US OR OTHER BARTON GROUP MEMBERS WAS PREREQUISITE FOR ITALY CONTINUING TO PUSH PROPOSAL. FYI: BARTON GROUP DISCOURAGED PROPOSAL MAINLY BECAUSE IT CONSIDERED MECHANISM UNDER ARTICLE 29, WHICH REFERS TO SECURITY COUNCIL AUTHORITY TO SET UP SUBSIDIARY BODIES, WOULD BE NON-STARTER AMONG NON-ALIGNED. END FYI LAY SAID ESSENCE OF ITALIAN IDEA WAS REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, NOT ARTICLE 29 UMBRELLA.

8. COMMENT: IN SUM, ALLIES REMAIN QUITE SKEPTICAL ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR FINDING CONSENSUS ON CAT AT THE SSOD WITHOUT SOMEHOW ADDRESSING PRODUCTION ISSUE.

9. NOTE: PARA 1 SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS: USREP MADE PRESENTATION TO BARTON GROUP ON APRIL 7 AS REQUESTED IN STATE 87919. LEONARD

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED ALL NATO CAPITALS.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 apr 1978
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